

## CLAIMS

1. An oil pump rotor assembly comprising:

an inner rotor having “n” external teeth (“n” is a natural number); and

5 an outer rotor having (n+1) internal teeth which are engageable with the external teeth,

wherein the oil pump rotor assembly is used in an oil pump which, during rotation of the inner and outer rotors, draws and discharges fluid by volume change of cells formed between the inner rotor and the outer rotor,

10 wherein when a clearance, which is defined between the teeth of the inner and outer rotors that together form one of the cells which has the minimum volume among the cells, is designated as “a”, a clearance, which is defined between the teeth of the inner and outer rotors that together form one of the cells whose volume is increasing during rotation of the inner and outer rotors, is designated as “b”, and a clearance, which is  
15 defined between the teeth of the inner and outer rotors that together form one of the cells which has the maximum volume among the cells, is designated as “c”, the following inequalities are satisfied:

$$a \leq b \leq c, \text{ and } a < c, \text{ and}$$

20 wherein when the clearance “b” of the cell positioned forward as viewed in the direction of rotation is further designated as “b1”, and the clearance “b” in the cell positioned backward as viewed in the direction of rotation is further designated as “b2”, the following inequality is satisfied:

$$b1 \leq b2.$$

25 2. An oil pump rotor assembly according to claim 1,

wherein when a clearance, which is defined between the teeth of the inner and outer rotors that together form one of the cells whose volume is decreasing during rotation of the inner and outer rotors, is designated as “d”, the following inequalities are satisfied:

5      $a \leq b \leq c, \quad a < c, \quad \text{and} \quad a \leq d \leq c, \text{ and}$

wherein when the clearance “d” in the cell positioned backward as viewed in the direction of rotation is further designated as “d1”, and the clearance “d” in the cell positioned forward as viewed in the direction of rotation is further designated as “d2”, the following inequality is satisfied:

10      $d1 \geq d2.$

3.     An oil pump rotor assembly comprising:

an inner rotor having “n” external teeth (“n” is a natural number); and

an outer rotor having (n+1) internal teeth which are engageable with the external

15     teeth,

wherein the oil pump rotor assembly is used in an oil pump which, during rotation of the inner and outer rotors, draws and discharges fluid by volume change of cells formed between the inner rotor and the outer rotor, and

20     wherein a clearance, which is defined between the teeth of the inner and outer rotors that together form one of the cells, gradually increases as the cell rotationally moves from a position at which the volume of the cell is minimized to a position at which the volume of the cell is maximized.

4.     An oil pump rotor assembly according to claim 3, wherein the clearance, which

25     is defined between the teeth of the inner and outer rotors that together form one of the

cells, gradually decreases as the cell rotationally moves from a position at which the volume of the cell is maximized to a position at which the volume of the cell is minimized.

5     5.     An oil pump rotor assembly according to one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the tooth surfaces of the inner and outer rotors are respectively formed using cycloid curves which are formed by rolling respective rolling circles along respective base circles without slip.

6.     An oil pump rotor assembly according to one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the tooth  
10 surfaces of the inner rotor are formed using a trochoid envelope curve which is formed by moving a trajectory circle, whose center is positioned on a trochoid curve, along the trochoid curve, and the tooth tips of the outer rotor are formed using an arc having the same radius as that of the trajectory circle.

15     7.     An oil pump rotor assembly according to one of claims 1 and 3,  
wherein each of the tooth profiles of the inner rotor is formed such that the tip profile thereof is formed using an epicycloid curve which is formed by rolling a first circumscribed-rolling circle  $A_i$  along a base circle  $D_i$  without slip, and the tooth space  
20 profile thereof is formed using a hypocycloid curve which is formed by rolling a first inscribed-rolling circle  $B_i$  along the base circle  $D_i$  without slip, and each of the tooth  
profiles of the outer rotor is formed such that the tip profile thereof is formed using an epicycloid curve which is formed by rolling a second circumscribed-rolling circle  $A_o$  along a base circle  $D_o$  without slip, and the tip profile thereof is formed using a  
25 the base circle  $D_o$  without slip, and

wherein the inner rotor and the outer rotor are formed such that the following equations are satisfied:

$$\phi Bo = \phi Bi;$$

$$\phi Do = \phi Di \cdot (n+1)/n + t \cdot (n+1)/(n+2); \text{ and}$$

$$5 \quad \phi Ao = \phi Ai + t/(n+2),$$

where  $\phi Di$  is the diameter of the base circle  $Di$  of the inner rotor,  $\phi Ai$  is the diameter of the first circumscribed-rolling circle  $Ao$ ,  $\phi Bi$  is the diameter of the first inscribed-rolling circle  $Bi$ ,  $\phi Do$  is the diameter of the base circle  $Do$  of the outer rotor,  $\phi Ao$  is the diameter of the second circumscribed-rolling circle  $Ao$ ,  $\phi Bo$  is the diameter of the second  
 10 inscribed-rolling circle  $Bo$ , and  $t (\neq 0)$  is a clearance between the tooth tip of the inner rotor and the tooth tip of the outer rotor.

8. An oil pump rotor assembly according to one of claims 1 and 3,

wherein each of the tooth profiles of the inner rotor is formed such that the tip  
 15 profile thereof is formed using an epicycloid curve which is formed by rolling a first circumscribed-rolling circle  $Di$  along a base circle “bi” without slip, and the tooth space profile thereof is formed using a hypocycloid curve which is formed by rolling a first inscribed-rolling circle “di” along the base circle “bi” without slip, and each of the tooth  
 profiles of the outer rotor is formed such that the tip profile thereof is formed using an  
 20 epicycloid curve which is formed by rolling a second circumscribed-rolling circle  $Do$  along a base circle “bo” without slip, and the tip profile thereof is formed using a hypocycloid curve which is formed by rolling a second inscribed-rolling circle “do” along the base circle “bo” without slip, and

wherein the inner rotor and the outer rotor are formed such that the following  
 25 equations and inequalities are satisfied:

$$\phi_{bi} = n \cdot (\phi_{Di} + \phi_{di});$$

$$\phi_{bo} = (n+1) \cdot (\phi_{Do} + \phi_{do});$$

$$\text{one of } \phi_{Di} + \phi_{di} = 2e \text{ and } \phi_{Do} + \phi_{do} = 2e;$$

$$\phi_{Do} > \phi_{Di};$$

$$5 \quad \phi_{di} > \phi_{do}; \text{ and}$$

$$(\phi_{Di} + \phi_{di}) < (\phi_{Do} + \phi_{do}),$$

where  $\phi_{bi}$  is the diameter of the base circle “bi” of the inner rotor,  $\phi_{Di}$  is the diameter of the first circumscribed-rolling circle  $D_i$ ,  $\phi_{di}$  is the diameter of the first inscribed-rolling circle “di”,  $\phi_{bo}$  is the diameter of the base circle “bo” of the outer rotor,  $\phi_{Do}$  is the

10 diameter of the second circumscribed-rolling circle  $D_o$ ,  $\phi_{do}$  is the diameter of the second inscribed-rolling circle “do”, and “e” is an eccentricity distance between the inner and outer rotors.